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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT 25X1

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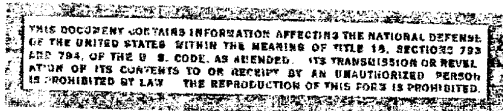
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SUBJECT Chemical Institutes at Rostock University

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Research is presently being conducted in the various chemical institutes of Rostock University, Rostock, East Germany.
2. The Institute for Physical Chemistry, Rostock University, is under the direction of associate professor Dr. Werner Schulze. Professor Schulze's particular field of investigation involves the thermodynamics of liquid nonelectrolytes. It is possible that in the future his investigations may include solid bodies and the related grating or lattice theory. Schulze's assistants in December of 1952 were:

Dipl. chem. Juergen von Haaren, whose investigations are concerned with the thermal conductivity of vapor mixtures.

Dipl. chem. (Inu) Roediger, who has completed a thesis concerning investigations on surface tension phenomena.

Grad. chem. Ilse Brauer, who is studying total vapor pressure measurements of binary liquid mixtures.

Dipl. chem. Horst Peters (former assistant to Dr. Karl Hauffe) planned to become assistant professor at the Rostock Physical Chemistry Institute upon completion of his doctor's degree.

Dipl. chem. Hans Dreier; field of research not known.

3. The Institute for Inorganic Chemistry, Rostock University, is under the direction of Professor Dr. Guenther Riensaecker, whose field of investigation includes, among other things, heterogeneous catalysis. Riensaecker's assistants were:

Dr. Brigitte Sarry who was a laboratory assistant formerly very close to Riensaecker. Dr. Sarry's recent work concerned inorganic hydrides. Dr. (Inu) Grosse-Reucken who was formerly in Goettingen, but has been in Rostock since 1950. His field of investigation is not known.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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4. Up to 1950, the Institute for Organic Chemistry at Rostock University was under the direction of Professor Dr. Wolfgang Langenbeck. Langenbeck is now reported to be at the University of Halle but is still associated with the Institute for Catalyst Research at Rostock University. Professor Dr. Ernst Waldschmidt-Leitz of Munich was director of the Institute for Organic Chemistry for one semester, and the present director is not known. The main assistant at the Institute was:

Dr. Guenther Schnuchel, a young first assistant [redacted]  
[redacted] His field of research is not known.

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Several other assistants were employed but nothing is known of them.

5. The department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry at Rostock University was under the direction of Dr. Harald Braeuninger, who was also known as first assistant. Braeuninger's assistant and colleague was a pharmacist named (fnu) Raudonat.
6. The Institute for Catalyst Research at Rostock was under the co-direction of Professor Dr. Guenther Rienecker of the Inorganic Chemistry Institute, and Professor Dr. Wolfgang Langenbeck of the Organic Chemistry Institute. The Institute was subordinated to the "Staatssekretariat fuer Steine und Erden" from which it derived its sole financial support. The research program was determined partly by the two department chiefs, Rienecker and Langenbeck, and partly through connections with industrial interests.
7. The Inorganic Department of the Institute had Dr. Heinrich Bremer as an assistant and deputy; Bremer was rumored to be Rienecker's favorite but does not have any scientific qualifications. Bremer is presently investigating sintering processes for powdered metal catalysts.
8. Dr. Margaret Birkenstadt has been investigating thorium oxide-cerium mixed catalysts and the reduction of thorium oxide with hydrogen. Her husband, Dr. Jochen Birkenstadt has been investigating cobalt containing mixed catalysts for ammonia oxidation. Carbon monoxide oxidation has been serving as a test reaction in these studies. Catalysts could be found whose activity compares with that of Hopcalite (a mixed catalyst of cobalt, silver, manganese and copper oxides). Dr. Carla Wenke has been and probably still is conducting research of a secret nature, probably on aluminum oxide in connection with interests of the Electrochemical Combine Bitterfeld. Dipl. chem. (fnu) Vormann was investigating para-hydrogen transformations on alloys. Dipl. chem. (fnu) Buchholz was beginning work on catalysts and semi-conductors. Dipl. chem. (fnu) Unger has been investigating the surface areas of powders utilizing the B. E. T. method (this is the physical adsorption isotherm method as treated by Brunauer, Emmett and Teller and the relationships between surface areas and the catalytic activity of these powders. In addition, several young assistants were in the Institute, but their names were not known.
9. The Organic Department had as its deputy Dr. Hermann Mix. The area of interest is not exactly known, but was certainly in connection with the synthesis of artificial edible fats through the condensation of acetaldehyde, the principal field of endeavor of the organic department. The oxidation of fatty alcohols to fatty acids was the field of work of Dr. Wilhelm Pritzkow. Dipl. chem. Karl Heinz Krueger worked on the condensation of formaldehyde to glycerine through the utilization of isatin carboxylic acid as a catalyst. Up to now, 20% yields of glycerine had been obtained, and intermediate products have been isolated. Krueger will concern himself in the future with the influence of ultrasonics on this reaction. Cand. chem. (fnu) Schwartzner has been working with Krueger on the above-mentioned problems. Cand. chem. (fnu) Hopfmeier has been carrying out work begun by Dr. (fnu) Giller, presently at Halle University, on mixed nickel formate catalysts for the hydrogenation of polyenals resulting from acetaldehyde condensations. Here, also, are a number of young assistants whose names were not known.

1. [redacted] Comment: State Secretariat for Stones and Earth.

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